## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

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Bluffs. The room rate was \$130, except it was full, he couldn't He stayed at the Red Lion Inn for \$50. Now the last time I checked, both states have a lodging tax. Win one for lose one for Nebraska. I know there is people on the floor of the Legislature talking about a sales tax on food. I've always supported that concept, but I wonder how many people from Omaha are going to drive to Council Bluffs to buy their groceries if there is a seven percent sales tax on food in the state of Nebraska? I'm not predicting that that's going to pass, by the way. I also understand that gasoline has probably got two cents tax less on it in Iowa than it does in Nebraska. So when they're over there, they're probably filling up with gas and saving a penny or two per gallon on gasoline. And while over there, they're probably eating at one of the buffets over there or one of the fancy restaurants. And last time I checked, there was a sales tax on meals that's bought So you see, just starts ballooning. I think the Omaha Lancers have built a facility over there to play their hockey games. So there is more entertainment dollars going across the river. And somebody said something about a bridge going across the river. Now I don't know if they're going to walk to or from, or what's going to happen there, but it just all makes the access much easier. I wish this issue wasn't in front of us but it is, and I think we need to face it squarely. And I like the idea of limited destination casinos. I like the idea of the benefits of having them at our horse racing facilities, and we can fight that amendment on Select File or down the road, whatever the case may be. I don't want slot machines in my home town and I don't want them where it's convenient for people to go cash their paychecks and lose their money. I frequent...let's put it this way, I go once in a while to the casinos across the river. And I'm a farmer, I'm a gambler, what can I say. But I like my odds to be better than...I've never bought a lottery ticket in this state, by the way. I've never bought a lottery ticket or one of those scratch-off tickets, but I know people that do. I have a little problem with any constitutional amendment that earmarks money. I was around when the lottery was passed. That was Governor Nelson's promise to the state of Nebraska, we'll give you a lottery. Half the money goes for education, half the money goes for the environment. We have welshed on both of those. And so my constituents would like to see a little tax relief. Now I